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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,658	03/25/2004	Howard Tang	1054.030	7489

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EXAMINER

TAN, VIBOL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2819

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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# Office Action Summary

Application No. 10/809,658		Applicant(s) TANG ET AL.	
Examiner Vibol Tan		Art Unit 2819	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7, 17-22, 34 and 35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6, 8-16 and 23-33 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/8/04, 5/5/04, 3/30/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 7, 17-22, 34 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aldebert et al. (U. S. PAT. 5,794,033).

In claim 1, Aldebert et al. teaches all claimed features in Fig. 1, a programmable device comprising a Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI, labeled as DATA and CLK) adapted to be connected to an SPI interface of at least one SPI serial memory device (10) such that the programmable device (11) is adapted to receive configuration data stored (DATA) in the SPI serial memory device (10) without transmitting the configuration data via a controller (no controller is in use) connected between the SPI serial memory device and the programmable device.

In claim 2, Aldebert et al. further teaches the invention of claim 1, wherein the programmable device is an FPGA (as shown); and the SPI serial memory device (10) is an SPI serial flash PROM (SERIAL PROM; 70 in Fig. 7 is a serial flash memory).

In claim 3, Aldebert et al. further teaches the invention of claim 1, wherein the programmable device (11) is adapted to independently generate at least one command (14) adapted to control operations of the SPI serial memory device (10) during configuration of the programmable device.

In claim 4, Aldebert et al. further teaches the invention of claim 1, wherein the programmable device is adapted to generate a message (col. 1, line 67) to inform the SPI serial memory device of a starting address (col. 1, lines 66-67; It employs one or more serial PROMs which are accessed serially for address and data) to be used to transfer the configuration data stored in the SPI serial memory device to the programmable device.

In claim 7, Aldebert et al. further teaches the invention of claim 1, wherein the SPI interface of the programmable device is adapted to be connected simultaneously to two or more different SPI serial memory devices (col. 1, lines 66-67; It employs one or more serial PROMs which are accessed serially for address and data), wherein the programmable device is adapted to receive a different portion of the configuration data from each different SPI serial memory device (inherent).

Claim 17 corresponds to detailed circuitry already discussed similarly with regard to claim 1.

Method claim 18 corresponds to detailed circuitry already discussed similarly with regard to claim 1.

In claim 19, Aldebert et al. teaches all claimed features in Fig. 1, a programmable device (11) adapted to be connected simultaneously to two or more memory devices (col. 1, lines 66-67; It employs one or more serial PROMs) such that the programmable device is adapted to receive configuration data stored in the two or more memory devices (inherent) without transmitting the configuration data via a controller (no controller is in use) connected between any of the memory devices and the

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programmable device, wherein the programmable device is adapted to receive a different portion of the configuration data from each different memory device (inherent).

Claims 20-22 are rejected in the same manner as claims 2-4.

Claim 34 corresponds to detailed circuitry already discussed similarly with regard to claim 19.

Method claim 35 corresponds to detailed circuitry already discussed similarly with regard to claim 19.

3. Claims 5, 6, 8-16 and 23-33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vibol Tan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1811.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:00 AM-4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on (571) 272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**VIBOL TAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**